

QUANTUM LEAP

On the latest 007 movie *QUANTUM OF SOLACE*, star Daniel Craig and director Marc Forster formed a professional Bond.



Prior to its energetic return to form in 2006's *Casino Royale*, the James Bond franchise was in a downward spiral with the last two Pierce Brosnan installments resembling Austin Powers rather than Ian Fleming.

Fortunately, like *Batman Begins*, *Casino Royale* was a series reboot to blow viewers away thanks to a tougher approach and a terrific new Bond in the form of Daniel Craig – ruthless, suave, sexy and more in tune with the qualities of the screen's most beloved superspy as originally conceived by creator Fleming.

"It's like I've never been away," says Daniel Craig of his return to the role in *Quantum of Solace*, the 22nd James Bond film and the first to serve as a direct sequel to the previous adventure.

The action picks up moments after the climactic events of *Casino Royale* that resulted in the demise of Bond's lady love Vesper Lynd (Eva Green). Hungry for revenge, Bond embarks on a globetrotting personal vendetta – Italy, Haiti, South America – against the nefarious organisation responsible for her death.

"We felt we needed to tie up the loose ends from *Casino Royale* and make sure people realise we are back making Bond movies," Craig explains. "For me it's about creating something that is going to stand alone but if you put the two films together, you're going to have an incredible experience because you will see one continuous story."

Driving *Quantum of Solace* with all the precision and style of an Aston Martin is director Marc Forster, a versatile filmmaker whose resume includes the character driven dramas *Monster's Ball*, *Finding Neverland* and *The Kite Runner*. Forster discovered that helming his first big budget action-adventure proved more intimidating to contemplate than to execute.

"It was a huge decision for me to take on the [Bond] franchise because it's so different from what I have done before," Forster admits. "When you direct a Bond film you are making a movie within a given framework. There are different aspects to 007 you cannot get around: you have Bond, the girls, the cars, the history and millions of fans and





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this presented an incredible opportunity to me. I was excited to find a creative way to tell the story within the framework and I knew it would also be challenging. It was exactly that challenge that really appealed to me."

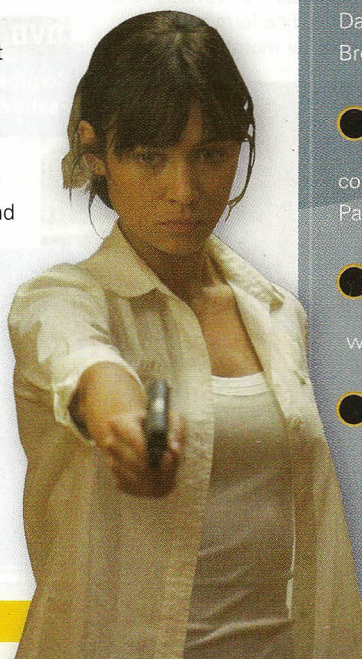
In approaching the project Forster took his inspiration from the design and tone of the early Sean Connery Bond films of the 1960's, combining it with the frenetic cutting that distinguished the Jason Bourne films by enlisting *Bourne Supremacy* editor Richard Pearson.

"I saw that there was room to create a new, stylistic look for the Bond franchise," he explains.

Forster also cites the opportunity to work with Daniel Craig as a further incentive to accept the assignment – a sentiment echoed by the actor. Indeed, the two formed a, well, bond right from the outset.

"Marc and I hit it off as soon as we met each other," says Craig. "I never doubted that, if we stuck together and pulled each others ideas and emotion on this, we would make a good film. That is really the bottom line... We have to keep moving and we have to take this movie somewhere new and make this movie individual from the last. Marc has been very strong about that and I am incredibly happy with how he has thrown himself into it."

"I'm incredibly excited about what we have done," Craig continues, "I'm amazed how much we have crammed in. We have been to so many locations, the film looks stunning and I think we have got something really special, in fact, I know we have something really special."



QUANTUM of SOLACE

Fun Facts

● At college, *QUANTUM OF SOLACE* production designer Dennis Gassner was a highly talented linebacker and was offered to try-out for the LA Rams. However, he refused the offer in favor of continuing his studies in graphic design and is now an Oscar® winning production designer.

● When Bond and Camille freefall out of the DC3 aircraft, the stunt was performed by Daniel Craig and Olga Kurylenko at a wind tunnel facility called Bodyflight. "Flying" in the wind tunnel is the closest you can come to freefalling 10,000 feet without actually jumping out of a plane.

● In order to film the high octane foot chase across the rooftops of Siena, the production team had to remove the existing tiles from the houses and reinforce the roofs so the actors feet did not break through the tiles during the stunt.

● Over 200,000 rounds of blank ammunition were purchased for testing, training and filming *QUANTUM OF SOLACE*.

● Stunt Coordinator Gary Powell comes from a dynasty of stuntmen. Between them, the Powell family have covered every James Bond film since *DR. NO* in 1962. His father, Noshier Powell, and uncle Dinny, worked on all the Connery and Lazenby films, his brother Greg worked on all the Moore and Dalton films, and Gary has worked on all the Brosnan and Craig Bond films to date.

● *QUANTUM OF SOLACE* filmed in more locations than any other Bond movie, covering six different countries including: UK, Panama, Chile, Mexico, Italy and Austria.

● On location in hot and humid Colon, the film crew drank over 1,000 bottles of water a day.

● Over a period of just 12 days, the *QUANTUM OF SOLACE* special effects team set off 54 controlled explosions whilst filming the climax of the movie on the world famous 007 Stage.